

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, IR

SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS IN IRAN

1. CONGRESSMAN DONALD FRASER HAS INVITED DEPARTMENT OF STATE TO TESTIFY "IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN IRAN" ON AUGUST 11. WILLIAM BUTLER, CO-AUTHOR OF RECENT ICJ STUDY, IS TO TESTIFY AUGUST 13.

2. FRASER LETTER STATES: QUOTE MAY WE HAVE A LEGAL AND FACTUAL DESCRIPTION OF THE STATUS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN IRAN WITH RESPECT TO THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

(A) THE NUMBER OF POLITICAL PRISONERS. (THE TERM "POLITICAL PRISONERS" MEANS PERSONS WHO HAVE BEEN DETAINED, ARRESTED OR PUNISHED FOR THEIR BELIEFS OR OPINIONS, BUT WHO HAVE NEITHER USED NOR ADVOCATED VIOLENCE). HOW MANY OF THE POLITICAL PRISONERS HAVE BEEN TRIED; HOW MANY

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CONVICTED; AND WHAT HAVE BEEN THEIR SENTENCES?

B. THE LENGTH OF TIME POLITICAL PRISONERS ARE DETAINED WITHOUT BEING CHARGED AND TRIED FOR OFFENSES. THE ACCESS TO LAWYERS AND FAMILY TO POLITICAL PRISONERS DURING THE PERIOD OF THEIR DETAINMENT.

C. TO THE EXTENT TO WHICH DUE PROCESS PROCEDURES ARE BEING FOLLOWED IN THE ARREST, DETENTION AND TRIAL OF POLITICAL PRISONERS;

(E) HAVE THERE BEEN INCIDENTS OF THE ARBITRARY TAKING OF LIFE EITHER OF PERSONS IMPRISONED OR PERSONS NOT IN PRISON? REGARDING THE LATTER SITUATION, TO WHAT EXTENT HAS THE GOVERNMENT BEEN IMPLICATED OR TOLERATED THESE INCIDENTS AND HAS IT TAKEN MEASURES TO PREVENT THESE ACTS?

(F) FREEDOM OF OPINION AND EXPRESSION, INCLUDING FREEDOM OF THE PRESS;

(G) THE RIGHTS OF TRADE UNIONS;

(H) FREEDOM OF PEACEFUL ASSEMBLY AND ASSOCIATION, INCLUDING THE RIGHT TO FORM POLITICAL PARTIES.

2. HAS THE U. S. GOVERNMENT MADE REPRESENTATIONS TO THE GOVERNMENT CONCERNING HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS? WHAT HAS BEEN THE RESPONSE OF THE GOVERNMENT?

3. FOR FISCAL YEARS 1976 AND 1977, WHAT IS IRAN RECEIVING IN SECURITY ASSISTANCE (AS DEFINED IN SECTION 502B OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT)? WHAT KINDS OF SECURITY PURPOSES IS THE ASSISTANCE SUPPOSED TO PROVIDE?

HOW DOES THE DEPARTMENT APPLY SECTION 502 B OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT WITH RESPECT TO IRAN? DOES THE DEPARTMENT CONSIDER THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN IRAN TO HAVE ANY BEARING ON IRAN FOR FISCAL YEARS 1976 AND 1977?

4. BRIEFLY DESCRIBE THE ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IRAN. DOES THE DEPARTMENT CONSIDER SECTION 116 OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT (HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE) APPLICABLE TO IRAN? ARE ALL THE DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS FOR IRAN DIRECTLY BENEFICIAL TO NEEDY PEOPLE?

YOUR RESPONSE TO THESE QUESTIONS AND YOUR TESTIMONY ON THE AUGUST 11TH DATE WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED. I WOULD

LIKE TO HAVE THE REPLIES TO THESE QUESTIONS BY AUGUST 6, 1976. PLEASE PROVIDE FIFTEEN COPIES OF THE SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENT AND SEVENTY-FIVE TO ONE HUNDRED COPIES OF YOUR ORAL PRESENTATION. UNQUOTE.

3. WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY REVIEWING THESE MATTERS AND SUPPLEMENTING, WHEREVER POSSIBLE, ITS PREVIOUS EXCELLENT REPORTING ON THIS SUBJECT. KISSINGER

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